

GRAY IS PROMINENT IN FALL DRESS GOODS

In a Wide Range of Shades It
Is Seen in New Velvets and
Wool Stuffs.

PLAIDED SKIRTS COMING

Rolling Collars for Autumn
Frocks—Frills and
Blouses.

The new materials are gradually drifting to the retail shop counters and the general public is getting a glimpse of what manufacturers and buyers have been studying for months past.

Not that merchants are putting forward all that they have to show or even the best of what they have. The retail buying crowd is not back from shore and mountain and country and the great horde of dressmakers has not yet descended upon the town, but on the other hand there are always many transients in New York just at this season, and New York dressmakers are beginning to take notice and notions make shopping expeditions from nearby resorts or country homes easy and pleasant.

"Selling," said a salesman the other day in answer to a question about certain superb velvets and moires. "The



LINGERIE OVER SATIN.

really choice things never have to wait long. It's only the more ordinary material which one is sure of finding at any time and wouldn't much mind missing anyway that has to wait for notice. We've sold several whole pieces of these velvets since we opened them a day or two ago."

No one could wonder that the velvets had sold, so lovely they were in quality and color. Light and supple as the softest silk, they were colored in beautiful scroll designs on a lustrous satin surface, the color of the foundation showing but a little. The handsomest were perhaps those in shades of taupe against a background of dull blue or glowing tangerine or violet, the brighter color gleaming between the lines of the design, but not emphasized enough to give the material a conspicuous or brilliant appearance.

Gray in all its tones figures very prominently among the best of the new stuffs, toning down more vivid colors, as in the velvets just described, or in soft color or two tones of the one color. Many of the brighter colors of the new season, while not mixed frankly with gray, seem to have a softening dash of gray in their composition, a fragrant bloom, one might call it, and mixtures in which gray figures openly are legion.

This is especially true of the wool stuffs for tailored wear and both these materials and some of the smartest velvets for street wear are made to have the effect of gray by a sprinkling mixture of black and white. The taupe shades lose none of their vigor and serve their continued popularity; for this brownish gray in all its shades has a peculiarly refined air and is very generally becoming, a thing that cannot be said for the iron, clunder, steel and silver gray tones.

Taupe is dark enough to be serviceable without sombreness and has enjoyed the distinction of not appealing to the mob that likes more spectacular coloring and when choosing a dark frock is fairly sure to choose black because the startling possibilities of black are almost unlimited. Nothing can be more distinguished, more chic, than black in some of its aspects, but the woman who wants to jump at the eye can achieve her purpose more effectively through certain treatments of black than by swathing herself in crimson or orange.

This is not true of taupe, as has been intimated; and that fact has kept the



WHITE BROADCLOTH.



FIVE WASH BLOUSES AND ONE OF SILK.

latter color fairly exclusive in other seasons, despite its popularity, but there are indications that it will be rather too much in evidence for exclusiveness during the coming season. Last spring it was taken up very generally for the one-piece frock; and cheap models blossomed in taupe, with the inevitable effect of cheapening the color through association. Still, cleverly handled, this color will undoubtedly be distinctly smart this fall. If the material is unusual and

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After the gray, the colors most in evidence at the first showings are certain shades of deep prune and lighter violet and amethyst tones, the browns running up into castor, chamels and other light shades and some of the blues. The very dark blues have been so much worn abroad this summer that one might expect a falling off in their popularity with the elect, but apparently the manufacturers and merchants expect no such development. There is nothing really new in the blues, though a shade called mauterlock, in compliment to the much exploited blue bird, is a slight variation.

Black and white, having been killed and buried by the prophets each season for years past, has as usual risen from its ashes and dominated the modes this summer. That its vogue will continue seems certain and nothing is more effective than this combination if one can give it individuality by line or detail.

The black satin skirt, cleverly draped and accompanied by a coat of white or light color, has not been worn much on this side of the water, though done almost to death abroad, and it is possible that variations on this theme may reach us this fall. Paris has sanctioned the draped skirt of black satin in combination with a bodice of color, merely touched with black, and one sees black frocks made in the revived guipure fashion, with whole sleeves of contrasting color.

In millinery, black has had an extraordinary success, extraordinary, that is for a summer season. The all black hat has been worn with every sort of costume and not only has it appeared in tulle and braids, but it has been successful also in velvet, a black velvet hat in conjunction with the flimsiest of mousselines being no unusual sight.

The big hat, very wide and very low, signed with a liking for the Scotch plaid and plaids, has been the most popular of the midsummer hats abroad. The tulle, instead of being corded and shirred as was the custom in other years, is laid flat on the frame, one layer over another and the brim is usually soft and flexible or is bent to give a suggestion of

exclusive or if the style of making is individual enough to set the model apart, the fact that the color is overmuch in the public eye cannot rob the frock of distinction.

One of the best looking frocks in making in a Fifth Avenue shop which many put at the top of the fashionable list is a three piece model for early fall wear. It is built up of the softest broadcloth, wonderfully light and supple, combined with the ribbed silk which is known as cote de cheval. This silk won great favor in Paris last winter and spring, but was not very smartly exploited here and is likely to have its fling on this side of the ocean during the coming season.

It is ribbed but it is quite different in surface and texture from most of the ribbed silks such as fall, ottoman, etc., and has rather more individuality, though it would not be in order for us many different uses as would charmeuse and is at its best in the street or visiting gown.

The costume of cote de cheval and broadcloth was in a singularly lovely shade of taupe somewhat lighter in tone than the shades most familiar and with a trifle more brown in it than usual. Thanks to the dull surface of the silk, cloth and silk were exactly of the same shade. The whole upper part of the frock was of the silk and a lower skirt section of black buttoned across the fuller skirt, holding it into narrow lines at the skirt bottom. The coat was of the corded silk and the only touch of bright color was in a motif of tangerine velvet, heavily embroidered in taupe and dull silver,

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of the more rolling collar on the modified Medici order. The Robespierre, with its standing collar and its rolling revers, and the Roi de Rome collar, with lower roll, are both liked and work up well in cool weather garments, though they have been launched in thin summer stuffs, linens, etc., and in certain adjustable forms have been decidedly overdone.

The lingerie and linen blouses have felt this collar movement and some of the prettiest of the late summer models show rolling collars of one kind or another associated with frills, and such model sketched on this page will give a fair idea of the class, though there are innumerable little variations on the idea.

Much latitude is allowed to the lingerie blouse of the moment, and though heavier or rather darker models are crowding in now as the cool weather comes on the lingerie blouse has gained a fresh hold upon public favor this summer and it doubtless be much worn through the fall and on into the winter by many girls and women. Certainly it has never been prettier or more chic, and that, too, without necessity being tremendously elaborated.

The claims not so much upon a wealth of hand embroidery and inset lace as upon smartness of line and daintiness of material. It does not make a difference to a place in formal dress as did the very ornate blouses several seasons ago, but it exploits the most dainty and piquant of informal ideas.

Frills are many, but not the side frill of earlier days. Instead one has some sort of soft central front frills of plastron, frequently of considerable width and perhaps covering almost the entire front of a blouse, and frills finish the sleeves, are tucked into unexpected slits, are integral parts of collar or cravat arrangements.

There have been many short sleeves among the summer blouses, but as the season wanes the long sleeves are having things very much their own way and all of the newest and prettiest blouse models show a long sleeve—sometimes a full bishop sleeve, sometimes a shaped sleeve tight from the elbow down, sometimes a sleeve rather on the order of the shirt sleeve, sometimes a sleeve with deep cuff.

The sleeve, whatever its general character, is likely to be set flatly in an armhole, and some of the newest models, both in silk and in lingerie, give the effect of being buttoned in a rather large armhole, as was the case with one of the models sketched here. The dropped armhole seam is less used than it was, although one sees it still, and somewhat the same effect is given to sleeves set into a regulation armhole by putting a seam or trimming line at the place where the dropped seam would be. A simple and good looking satin blouse illustrated here shows this treatment, and has attractive details in its little embroidered pocket and collar.

Epaulette arrangements are modish in blouses, and a cream net frill edged by narrow embroidery in color are liked for neck and sleeve frills upon either white or colored blouses. Butter color lace or even ochre lace is used by the French makers on blouses of finest white linen, and there are many blouses of lingerie in these same popular yellowish tones. Some charming lingerie models have deep pointed turn-down collars and deep cuffs finished merely with hemstitching and laid over under collars and cuffs of colored chiffon.

WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING.

Mrs. Hartley Le H. Smith has been appointed supervisor of district secretaries of the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities. For five years she was connected with the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity as an assistant of Miss Mary T. Richmond. Later she served for three years under Dr. Neff in the Philadelphia Department of Health and Charities.

The Rev. Mrs. Anna C. Tillingham has resigned the pastorate of the Universalist Church of Livermore Falls, Me., to take charge of the First Universalist Church of Saugus, Mass. She is a graduate of Tufts College. She began her career as a public speaker at the age of 15, when she addressed the State Sunday School Association at Le Roy, N. Y.

In 1908 Mrs. Tillingham was the direct cause of the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs raising a fund of \$15,000 for the founding of a scholarship in domestic science in the Pennsylvania State College. Removing to Maine in 1909 she offered her services in the prohibition campaign and made nearly a hundred speeches to audiences ranging from gatherings in small country schoolhouses to meetings of more than a thousand people in the larger cities.

Her husband, the Rev. James D. Tillingham, is pastor of the First Universalist Church of Beverly, Mass.

Miss Margaret Chung, a young Chinese woman, is at the head of the movement which proposes to form an organization of American women for the purpose of assisting and encouraging the women of China in making the best use of their newly acquired rights to the ballot. She is the secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Chinese-American League of Justice at Los Angeles, Cal., and a member of the Chinese Protective Association and of the Chinese Women's Reform Club.

Without the assistance of their Caucasian sisters the Chinese women may never reap the full benefit of the franchise. Miss Chung declared when talking about the proposed organization. "When the new republic of China granted the franchise to women it was the most significant step that could have been taken in the interest of progress. Only a Chinese woman can fully understand what is meant by giving Chinese girls an equal chance with the boys. It heralds the dawn of a golden epoch, more than even the men of China realize. More and better missionary work can be done for the Chinese women by instructing and encouraging the women in the use of the ballot than in any other way."

Miss Coffin, the adopted daughter of Dr. L. S. Coffin, is to be at the head of the Women's School of Agriculture which has been established at Los Angeles, Cal. The money to establish the school was given by Dr. Coffin, who is a resident of Iowa and believes in the aptitude of women for farm management.

Mrs. Edward C. Dodd of Texas by developing a tract of what was supposed to be worthless land has made a fortune by raising Bermuda onions. Last year her crop sold for \$50,000. She manages both her farm and her sales office.

Miss Nettie C. Burleigh, a graduate of Mount Holyoke College, is a successful chicken farmer. Beginning with a few hens she now ships hundreds of eggs each day besides making several shipments each week of dressed poultry. She raises the bulk of the food consumed by her poultry and livestock.

Dr. Coffin points to the success of these and many others as proving the ability of her sex to succeed as farmers.

Miss Jennie H. Bragdon is known as the "Cobbler Professor" in Augusta, Me., because she works at the bench in a shoe factory and writes poetry.

One afternoon in October, 1906, I was working at the bench and a poetic inspiration came to me. It came repeatedly and so clearly that I stopped work and wrote it down. Miss Bragdon said: "It was a great surprise to me, because I had never before penned a verse."

"I thought very little of it, but some of my shopmates took an interest in it. Not many days later the foreman got hold of it and came to me saying that the superintendent of the factory wanted me to stop long enough to jot down any verses that might come to me. I haven't done it always, though I have written 218 poems."

Only a few of Miss Bragdon's verses have been printed. She is a native of Sidings, Me., is a third child and was born on the thirteenth of the month. She lives at Pleasant Hill, a suburb of Augusta, and has worked in the shoe factory ever since it was built.

REALLY BUSY DAY WITH MISS FORMICA

Stunts Herculean and Clever
Done in a Few Hours by
a Field Ant.

AN EXCITING EXISTENCE

In 24 Hours It Includes Great
Tragedies, Also Housework
on the Side.

It was one of Formica's busy days, it passing, it may be mentioned that the little lady is known in the scientific world as *Lasius flavus* and out of it as the field ant. That may seem a comedown, but wait and read. As before remarked, it was one of her busy days.

Formica woke up at 8 A. M.—without being called—performed her toilet with the brush and comb nature had provided on her front legs and then with hundreds of her sisters hurried through the corridors on her way outside to hunt for anything edible that might have been dropped in the vicinity over night.

As the ants passed along the corridors one would occasionally stop an acquaintance long enough to brush off with its antennae a bit of dirt from the other's body, much as a man picks a bit of lint from a friend's coat.

Pushing aside the leaf which had been placed over the exit from the nest Formica bustled out and soon discovered the dead body of a bee. She promptly helped herself from the bee's honey sacks, then got under the body and began to carry it home. It was about the same as if a small dog should carry a horse. But this was nothing for Formica. One of her sisters, who is on exhibition at the Crystal Palace in London, has been photographed holding in her jaws a weight 3,000 times heavier than herself.

By the time she got back to the nest many of the openings had been uncovered. Some of the ants were carrying into the house bits of leaves and straw to upholster the interior. Others were cutting down blades of grass to be used as supports in the corridors, while still others—like Formica—were bringing the spoils of the chase, bodies of young grasshoppers or caterpillars. Occasionally a fly would swoop down and carry off some particularly ant, but its fate caused no consternation among the others. It was merely one of the hazards of destiny.

Our ant did not wait to see the breakfast she had provided disposed of, says Basil Sage in *Four Days*, but hurried down to the queen's chamber, where several hundred workers were busy caring for the eggs that it was the queen's province to lay. In fact, in an ant's nest the queen lays the eggs and the others do the rest. She wanders about where she pleases and drops her eggs when she likes, giving them no further attention, while her attendants follow her to pick them up.

Formica and other ants carried eggs one at a time, from the queen's chamber to another compartment for perhaps an hour or two, when other relays came to take their places, and Formica and hundreds of her sisters proceeded to the nursery, where were the larvae—small, white, legless grubs conical in form, narrowing toward the head. The ants carried these infants to rooms in the top part of the nest into which the warm rays of the sun were beginning to penetrate and where they were arranged in those groups according to size.

They were spotlessly clean, for they were licked all over by their careful nurses before being put back to sleep. Each grub was fed also before being left for the morning. Formica and her sisters squeezed drops of nutriment out of their own crops into the tiny, pointed mouths of each of the helpless little ones.

The next duties of the working ants were to the chrysalides, which were also carried up into the warm top chambers, where many were throwing off their shells and becoming complete insects. These cocoons were carefully licked clean, as the grubs had been, by the workers, who also assisted those whose shells were breaking to extricate themselves, stripping down the soft envelope and carefully unfolding the legs and smoothing out the wings with the utmost tenderness and delicacy.

Young princesses among these new arrivals were at once taken into separate chambers, where they were fed by their nurses, and carried up into the warm top chambers, where many were throwing off their shells and becoming complete insects. These cocoons were carefully licked clean, as the grubs had been, by the workers, who also assisted those whose shells were breaking to extricate themselves, stripping down the soft envelope and carefully unfolding the legs and smoothing out the wings with the utmost tenderness and delicacy.

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